HADESTOWN

By **Anaïs Mitchell**

Developed with & Directed by **Rachel Chavkin**
Arrangements and Orchestrations by **Michael Chorney**
Co-Arrangements and Orchestrations by **Todd Sickafoose**
Co-conceived by **Ben t. Matchstick**

World premiere production at New York Theatre Workshop
(Jim Nicola, Artistic Director; Jeremy Blocker, Managing Director)
By special arrangement with Dale Franzen, Mara Isaacs, and Paula Marie Black

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CHARACTERS

Fates, Hermes, Orpheus, Eurydice, Persephone, Hades

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PROLOGUE (ABOVE)

(The FATES enter the theatre.)

(#1) ANY WAY THE WIND BLOWS

FATES

IN THE FEVER OF A WORLD IN FLAMES
IN THE SEASON OF THE HURRICANES
FLOOD'LL GET YA IF THE FIRE DON'T
ANY WAY THE WIND BLOWS

AND THERE AIN'T A THING THAT YOU CAN DO
WHEN THE WEATHER TAKES A TURN ON YOU
'CEPT FOR HURRY UP AND HIT THE ROAD
ANY WAY THE WIND BLOWS

SISTER'S GONE, GONE THE GYPSY ROUTE
BROTHER'S GONE, GONE FOR A JOB DOWN SOUTH
AIN'T NOBODY GONNA STICK AROUND
WHEN THE DARK CLOUDS ROLL
ANY WAY THE WIND BLOWS

(The rest of the COMPANY enters the theatre.)

OOOOOH…

IN THE VALLEY OF THE EXODUS
IN THE BELLY OF A BOWL OF DUST
CROWS AND BUZZARDS FLYING LOW
ANY WAY THE WIND BLOWS

NO USE TALKING OF A PAST THAT'S PAST
SET OUT WALKING AND YOU DON'T LOOK BACK
WHERE YOU'RE GOING THERE AIN'T NO ONE KNOWS
ANY WAY THE WIND BLOWS

SISTER'S GONE, GONE THE GYPSY ROUTE
BROTHER'S GONE, GONE FOR A JOB DOWN SOUTH
GONE THE SAME WAY AS THE SHANTYTOWN
AND THE TRAVELING SHOW
ANY WAY THE WIND BLOWS

OOOOOH…

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(#2) ROAD TO HELL I

HERMES

Alright, alright, alright, alright…

MMMM.…

COMPANY

MMMM…

HERMES

(like a train)
MM MMM…

COMPANY

MM MMM…

Chucka chucka chucka chucka chucka chucka chucka chucka
Chucka chucka chucka chucka chucka chucka chucka chucka

HERMES

Once upon a time there was a railroad line

COMPANY

MMMM…

HERMES

Don't ask where, brother, don't ask when

COMPANY

MMMM…

HERMES

It was the road to hell
It was hard times

COMPANY

MMM MMM… MMM

HERMES

It was a world of gods…
And men

It's an old song

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COMPANY

IT'S AN OLD SONG!

HERMES

It's an old tale from way back when
It's an old song

COMPANY

IT'S AN OLD SONG!

HERMES

AND WE'RE GONNA SING IT AGAIN

Now on the road to hell there was a railroad line

COMPANY

MMMM…

HERMES

And there was three old women all dressed the same

COMPANY

MMMM…

HERMES

And they was always singing in the back of your mind

COMPANY

(under next line)
MMM MMM MMM

HERMES

Everybody meet the Fates!

And on the road to hell there was a railroad station

COMPANY

MMMM…

HERMES

And a man with feathers on his feet

COMPANY

MMMM…

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HERMES

Who could help you to your final destination

COMPANY

MMM MMM MMM

HERMES

Mister Hermes… that's me!

It's a sad song

COMPANY

IT'S A SAD SONG!

HERMES

It's a sad tale; it's a tragedy
It's a sad song

COMPANY

IT'S A SAD SONG!

HERMES

WE'RE GONNA SING IT ANYWAY

On the road to hell there was a railroad line

COMPANY

MMMM…

HERMES

And a lady stepping off a train

COMPANY

MM MMM…

HERMES

With a suitcase full of summertime

COMPANY

MMM MMM MMM

HERMES

Persephone, by name!

There was a railroad line on the road to hell

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COMPANY

MMMM…

HERMES

There was a young man down on bended knee

COMPANY

("tsk-tsk-tsk")
MMM MMM MMM

HERMES

And brother, thus begins the tragic tale

COMPANY

MMM MMM… MMM

HERMES

Of Orpheus… and Eurydice

It's a love song

COMPANY

IT'S A LOVE SONG!

HERMES

It's a tale of a love that never dies
It's a love song

COMPANY

IT'S A LOVE SONG!

HERMES

About someone… who tries

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SUMMERTIME (ABOVE)

(#3) COME HOME WITH ME I

ORPHEUS

Come home with me

EURYDICE

Who are you?

ORPHEUS

The man who's gonna marry you
I'm Orpheus
Come home with me

EURYDICE

Who am I?

ORPHEUS

Eurydice
The girl who makes me wanna sing
The woman who I'm marrying

EURYDICE

A singer? Is that what you are?

ORPHEUS

Well, I also play the lyre

EURYDICE

A liar, and a player too!
I've met too many men like you

ORPHEUS

I'm not like any man you've met

EURYDICE

Oh yeah? What makes you different?

ORPHEUS

You see the world?

EURYDICE

Of course I do

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ORPHEUS

I'll make it beautiful for you
For you, I'll change the way it is

EURYDICE

With what?

ORPHEUS

(shows his lyre)
With this

EURYDICE

I'm sure you play it well
But only the gods can change the world
Me and you can't change a thing

ORPHEUS

You haven't heard me sing

EURYDICE

Are you always this confident?

ORPHEUS

When I look at you, I am

EURYDICE

When you look at me, what do you see?

ORPHEUS

Someone stronger than me
Somebody who survives

EURYDICE

So why should I become your wife?

ORPHEUS

Because I make you feel alive

EURYDICE

That's worth a lot…
What else you got?

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(#4) WEDDING SONG

EURYDICE

LOVER, TELL ME IF YOU CAN
WHO'S GONNA BUY THE WEDDING BANDS?
TIMES BEING WHAT THEY ARE
HARD AND GETTING HARDER ALL THE TIME

ORPHEUS

LOVER, WHEN I SING MY SONG
ALL THE RIVERS SING ALONG
AND THEY'RE GONNA BREAK THEIR BANKS FOR ME

TO LAY THEIR GOLD AROUND MY FEET
ALL A-FLASHING IN THE PAN
ALL TO FASHION FOR YOUR HAND
THE RIVER'S GONNA GIVE US THE WEDDING BANDS

EURYDICE

LOVER, TELL ME IF YOU'RE ABLE
WHO'S GONNA LAY THE WEDDING TABLE?
TIMES BEING WHAT THEY ARE
DARK AND GETTING DARKER ALL THE TIME

ORPHEUS

LOVER, WHEN I SING MY SONG
ALL THE TREES GONNA SING ALONG
AND BEND THEIR BRANCHES DOWN TO ME
TO LAY THEIR FRUIT AROUND MY FEET
THE ALMOND AND THE APPLE
AND THE SUGAR FROM THE MAPLE
AND THE TREES GONNA LAY THE WEDDING TABLE

EURYDICE

LOVER, TELL ME, WHEN WE'RE WED
WHO'S GONNA MAKE THE WEDDING BED?
TIMES BEING WHAT THEY ARE
HARD AND GETTING HARDER ALL THE TIME

ORPHEUS

LOVER, WHEN I SING MY SONG
ALL THE BIRDS GONNA SING ALONG
AND THEY'LL COME FLYING ROUND TO ME
TO LAY THEIR FEATHERS AT MY FEET
AND WE'LL LIE DOWN IN EIDERDOWN
A PILLOW 'NEATH OUR HEADS
THE BIRDS GONNA MAKE THE WEDDING BED

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EURYDICE
AND THE TREES GONNA LAY THE WEDDING TABLE

ORPHEUS
AND THE RIVER'S GONNA GIVE US THE WEDDING BANDS

ORPHEUS & EURYDICE
MMMMM…

HERMES
Orpheus and Eurydice

EURYDICE
So what's your song about?

HERMES
They lived off of the land

ORPHEUS
It's about the gods

HERMES
It was sometimes famine, sometimes feast
Depending on the wind
Eurydice was a hungry young girl

EURYDICE
Well, go on…

HERMES
Young and hungry as anything

EURYDICE
Sing your song

HERMES
And Orpheus was a poor boy…

ORPHEUS
It's not finished…

EURYDICE
Sing it!

HERMES
Till he opened his mouth to sing

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(#5) EPIC I

ORPHEUS

GATHER ROUND YOU VAGABONDS
PICKING FRUIT AND HOPPING FREIGHTS
AND ANYONE WHO'S WANDERING
WONDERING WHY THE WINDS HAVE CHANGED
I'LL SING A SONG OF A LOVE GONE WRONG
BETWEEN A MIGHTY KING AND QUEEN
GATHER ROUND, I'LL SING THE SONG
OF HADES AND PERSEPHONE
QUEEN OF FLOWERS, QUEEN OF FIELDS

(PERSEPHONE opens her suitcase and begins making summertime happen.)

QUEEN OF THE GREEN AND GROWING EARTH
LADY PERSEPHONE, HALF OF THE YEAR
WAS BOUND TO STAY DOWN IN THE UNDERWORLD
BUT THE OTHER HALF SHE COULD WALK IN THE SUN
AND THE SUN IN TURN BURNED TWICE AS BRIGHT
WHICH IS WHERE THE SEASONS COME FROM
AND WITH THEM THE CYCLE
OF THE SEED AND THE SICKLE
AND THE LIVES OF THE PEOPLE
AND THE BIRDS IN THEIR FLIGHT, SINGING
LA LA LA LA LA LA LA

COMPANY

LA LA LA LA LA LA LA

ORPHEUS

LA LA LA LA LA LA LA

COMPANY

LA LA LA LA LA LA…

(EURYDICE kisses ORPHEUS.)

EURYDICE

That's good!

ORPHEUS

It's not finished…

(ORPHEUS kisses EURYDICE. PERSEPHONE showers them with blossoms.)

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(#6) LIVIN' IT UP ON TOP

PERSEPHONE
WELL IT'S LIKE HE SAID, I'M A OUTDOOR GIRL

COMPANY
LIVIN' IT—LIVIN' IT UP

PERSEPHONE
MARRIED TO THE KING OF THE UNDERWORLD

COMPANY
LIVIN' IT UP ON TOP

PERSEPHONE
TRYING TO ENJOY MYSELF

COMPANY
LIVIN' IT—LIVIN' IT UP

PERSEPHONE
SIX MONTHS OUTTA EVERY TWELVE

COMPANY
LIVIN' IT UP ON TOP

PERSEPHONE
WHEN THE SUN IS HIGH, BROTHER, SO AM I
DRINKING DANDELION WINE
BROTHER I'M AS FREE AS A HONEYBEE
IN A SUMMERTIME FRAME OF MIND
WHEN MY MAN COMES AROUND
OH I KNOW HE'S GONNA BRING ME DOWN
BUT FOR NOW I'M LIVIN' IT!

COMPANY
HOW ARE YA LIVIN' IT?

PERSEPHONE
LIVIN' IT—LIVIN' IT UP
OH BROTHER RIGHT HERE I'M LIVIN' IT

COMPANY
WHERE ARE YA LIVIN' IT?

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PERSEPHONE

LIVIN' IT UP ON TOP!

ORPHEUS

NOW WHY WOULD A MAN OF HIS OWN FREE WILL
GO TO WORK ALL DAY IN THE MINE AND THE MILL?
WHY WOULD HE TRADE THE SUNSHINE
FOR A COUPLA NICKELS AND DIMES?
UP ON TOP A MAN CAN BREATHE, WHEN HE'S

COMPANY

LIVIN' IT—LIVIN' IT UP

ORPHEUS

PICKING FRUIT IN THE ORCHARD TREES

COMPANY

LIVIN' IT UP ON TOP

ORPHEUS

NO ONE HERE IS A MILLIONAIRE, BUT WE'RE

COMPANY

LIVIN' IT—LIVIN' IT UP

ORPHEUS

WHAT WE HAVE, WE HAVE TO SHARE

COMPANY

LIVIN' IT UP ON TOP

ORPHEUS

BROTHER GIVE ME A LYRE AND A CAMPFIRE
IN A OPEN FIELD AT NIGHT
GIVE ME THE SKY THAT YOU CAN'T BUY
OR SELL AT ANY PRICE
AND I'LL GIVE YOU A SONG FOR FREE
COS THAT'S HOW LIFE OUGHTTA BE
SO THAT'S HOW I'M LIVIN' IT

COMPANY

HOW ARE YA LIVIN' IT?

ORPHEUS

LIVIN' IT—LIVIN' IT UP
OH BROTHER RIGHT HERE I'M LIVIN' IT

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COMPANY

WHERE ARE YA LIVIN' IT?

ORPHEUS

LIVIN' IT UP ON TOP!

(ORPHEUS and EURYDICE dance.)

HERMES

And that is how the summer went

PERSEPHONE

Oh, I'm just getting started

HERMES

The flowers bloomed and the fruit got ripe

PERSEPHONE

Who says times are hard?

HERMES

And the lovers took each other's hands

PERSEPHONE

Anybody want a drink?

HERMES

And danced beneath the sky

PERSEPHONE

UP ON TOP WE AIN'T GOT MUCH, BUT WE'RE

COMPANY

LIVIN IT—LIVIN IT UP

PERSEPHONE

JUST ENOUGH TO FILL OUR CUPS

COMPANY

LIVIN IT UP ON TOP

PERSEPHONE

BROTHER, PASS THAT BOTTLE AROUND, COS WE'RE

COMPANY

LIVIN IT—LIVIN IT UP

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PERSEPHONE

Let the poet bless this round!

ORPHEUS

TO THE PATRONESS OF ALL OF THIS:
PERSEPHONE!

HERMES

Hear, hear!

ORPHEUS

TO THE SUNSHINE AND THE FRUIT OF THE VINE
SHE GIVES US EVERY YEAR
ASKING NOTHING IN RETURN
'CEPT THAT WE SHOULD LIVE AND LEARN
TO LIVE AS BROTHERS IN THIS LIFE
AND TO TRUST SHE WILL PROVIDE

And if no one takes too much
There will always be enough
She will always fill our cups
And we'll always raise em up!
(raises cup to COMPANY and audience)
Let the world we dream about
Be the one we live in now!

COS RIGHT NOW WE'RE LIVING IT

COMPANY

HOW ARE WE LIVING IT?

ORPHEUS

LIVING IT—LIVING IT UP
OH BROTHER RIGHT HERE WE'RE LIVING IT

COMPANY

WHERE ARE WE LIVING IT?

ORPHEUS

LISTEN HERE I'LL TELL YA WHERE WE'RE LIVING IT,
UP ON TOP!

COMPANY

UP ON TOP!

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ORPHEUS

LIVING IT UP AND WE AIN'T GONNA STOP
LIVING IT, LIVING IT

COMPANY

LIVING IT, LIVING IT

ORPHEUS & COMPANY

LIVING IT UP ON TOP!

(#7) ALL I'VE EVER KNOWN

HERMES

See, Orpheus was a poor boy
But he had a gift to give
He could make you see how the world could be
In spite of the way that it is

And Eurydice was a young girl
But she'd seen how the world was
When she fell, she fell in spite of herself
In love with Orpheus

EURYDICE

I WAS ALONE SO LONG
I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW THAT I WAS LONELY
OUT IN THE COLD SO LONG
I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW THAT I WAS COLD

TURN MY COLLAR TO THE WIND
THIS IS HOW IT'S ALWAYS BEEN

ALL I'VE EVER KNOWN IS HOW TO HOLD MY OWN
ALL I'VE EVER KNOWN IS HOW TO HOLD MY OWN
BUT NOW I WANNA HOLD YOU TOO

YOU TAKE ME IN YOUR ARMS
AND SUDDENLY THERE'S SUNLIGHT ALL AROUND ME
EVERYTHING BRIGHT AND WARM
AND SHINING LIKE IT NEVER DID BEFORE

AND FOR A MOMENT I FORGET
JUST HOW DARK AND COLD IT GETS

ALL I'VE EVER KNOWN IS HOW TO HOLD MY OWN
ALL I'VE EVER KNOWN IS HOW TO HOLD MY OWN

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(EURYDICE)

BUT NOW I WANNA HOLD YOU

NOW I WANNA HOLD YOU
HOLD YOU CLOSE
I DON'T WANNA EVER HAVE TO LET YOU GO
NOW I WANNA HOLD YOU
HOLD YOU TIGHT
I DON'T WANNA GO BACK TO THE LONELY LIFE

SAY THAT YOU'LL HOLD ME FOREVER
SAY THAT THE WIND WON'T CHANGE ON US
SAY THAT WE'LL STAY WITH EACH OTHER
AND IT WILL ALWAYS BE LIKE THIS

ORPHEUS

I'M GONNA HOLD YOU FOREVER
THE WIND WILL NEVER CHANGE ON US
LONG AS WE STAY WITH EACH OTHER
THEN IT WILL ALWAYS BE LIKE THIS

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FALL & WINTER (ABOVE & BELOW)

(#8) WAY DOWN HADESTOWN

(Train whistle.)

HERMES

On the road to hell there was a railroad track

COMPANY

MMMM…

PERSEPHONE

Oh come on

HERMES

There was a train coming up from way down below

COMPANY

MMMM…

PERSEPHONE

That was not six months

HERMES

Better go get your suitcase packed
Guess it's time to go

FOLLOW THAT DOLLAR FOR A LONG WAY DOWN
FAR AWAY FROM THE POORHOUSE DOOR
YOU EITHER GET TO HELL OR TO HADESTOWN
THERE AIN'T NO DIFFERENCE ANYMORE

WAY DOWN HADESTOWN
WAY DOWN UNDER THE GROUND!

HOUNDDOG HOWLS AND THE WHISTLE BLOWS
TRAIN COME A-ROLLIN' CLICKETY-CLACK
NOBODY KNOWS WHERE THAT OLD TRAIN GOES
THOSE WHO GO, THEY DON'T COME BACK, THEY'RE GOING

COMPANY

WAY DOWN HADESTOWN
WAY DOWN UNDER THE GROUND!

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PERSEPHONE

WINTER'S NIGH AND SUMMER'S O'ER
HEAR THAT HIGH AND LONESOME SOUND
OF MY HUSBAND COMING FOR
TO BRING ME HOME TO
HADESTOWN

COMPANY

WAY DOWN HADESTOWN
WAY DOWN UNDER THE GROUND!

PERSEPHONE

DOWN THERE IT'S A BUNCHA STIFFS!
BROTHER, I'LL BE BORED TO DEATH
GONNA HAVE TO IMPORT SOME STUFF
JUST TO ENTERTAIN MYSELF

GIMME MORPHINE IN A TIN
GIMME A CRATE OF THE FRUIT OF THE VINE
TAKES A LOT OF MEDICINE
TO MAKE IT THROUGH THE WINTERTIME

COMPANY

WAY DOWN HADESTOWN
WAY DOWN UNDER THE GROUND!

FATES

EVERYBODY DRESSES IN CLOTHES SO FINE
EVERYBODY'S POCKETS ARE WEIGHTED DOWN
EVERYBODY SIPPING AMBROSIA WINE
IN A GOLDMINE IN HADESTOWN

COMPANY

WAY DOWN HADESTOWN
WAY DOWN UNDER THE GROUND!

ORPHEUS

EVERYBODY HUNGRY, EVERYBODY TIRED
EVERYBODY SLAVES BY THE SWEAT OF HIS BROW
THE WAGE IS NOTHING AND THE WORK IS HARD
IT'S A GRAVEYARD IN HADESTOWN

COMPANY

WAY DOWN HADESTOWN
WAY DOWN UNDER THE GROUND!

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FATES
EVERY LITTLE PENNY IN THE WISHING WELL
EVERY LITTLE NICKEL ON THE DRUM (ON THE DRUM!)
ALL THEM SHINY LITTLE HEADS AND TAILS
WHERE DO YOU THINK THEY COME FROM? THEY COME FROM

COMPANY
WAY DOWN HADESTOWN
WAY DOWN UNDER THE GROUND!

ORPHEUS
MISTER HADES IS A MEAN OLD BOSS

HERMES
WITH A SILVER WHISTLE AND A GOLDEN SCALE

COMPANY
AN EYE FOR AN EYE!

HERMES
AND HE WEIGHS THE COST

COMPANY
A LIE FOR A LIE

HERMES
AND YOUR SOUL FOR SALE

COMPANY
SOLD!

ORPHEUS
TO THE KING ON THE CHROMIUM THRONE

COMPANY
THROWN!

ORPHEUS
TO THE BOTTOM OF A SING-SING CELL

HERMES
WHERE THE LITTLE WHEELS SQUEAL AND THE BIG WHEEL GROANS

ORPHEUS
AND YOU BETTER FORGET ABOUT YOUR WISHING WELL

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COMPANY

WAY DOWN HADESTOWN
WAY DOWN UNDER THE GROUND!

(Train whistle. The train arrives.)

HERMES

On the road to hell there was a railroad car

COMPANY

MMMM…

HERMES

And the car door opened and a man stepped out

(HADES appears.)

COMPANY

MMMM…

HERMES

Everybody looked and everybody saw
It was the same man they'd been singin' about

PERSEPHONE

You're early

HADES

I missed you

(HADES's eye falls on EURYDICE.)

FATES

(to EURYDICE)
MISTER HADES IS A MIGHTY KING
MUST BE MAKING SOME MIGHTY BIG DEALS
SEEMS LIKE HE OWNS EVERYTHING

EURYDICE

KIND OF MAKES YOU WONDER HOW IT FEELS…

HERMES

All aboard!
A one, a two, a 1-2-3-4!

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COMPANY

WAY DOWN HADESTOWN
WAY DOWN UNDER THE GROUND!
WAY DOWN HADESTOWN
WAY DOWN UNDER THE GROUND!
WAY DOWN UNDER THE GROUND!
WAY DOWN UNDER THE...
GROUND!

(Autumn leaves. Everyone puts on coats except for ORPHEUS, who begins writing.)

(#9) WIND THEME / "I'M WORKING"

FATES

("Wind theme")
OOOOOH…

HERMES

With Persephone gone, the cold came on

EURYDICE

Do you hear that?

ORPHEUS

(busy writing)
Hear what?

EURYDICE

The wind
It's *changing*

Winter's coming on

HERMES

With Persephone gone, the nights grew long

EURYDICE

We have work to do

HERMES

And the days grew short and dark and cold

ORPHEUS

I'm working on my song

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EURYDICE

Well, find me when you're finished

ORPHEUS

I'll be there in a minute

HERMES

And young love, too, grew old

(EURYDICE drapes a jacket over ORPHEUS's shoulders, then goes to prepare for winter. ORPHEUS works on his song.)

(#10) EPIC II

ORPHEUS

KING OF DIAMONDS, KING OF SPADES
HADES WAS KING OF THE KINGDOM OF DIRT
MINERS OF MINES, DIGGERS OF GRAVES
THEY BOWED DOWN TO HADES WHO GAVE THEM WORK
AND THEY BOWED DOWN TO HADES WHO MADE THEM SWEAT
WHO PAID THEM THEIR WAGES AND SET THEM ABOUT
DIGGING AND DREDGING AND DRAGGING THE DEPTHS
OF THE EARTH TO TURN ITS INSIDES OUT, SINGING
LA LA LA LA LA LA LA
LA LA LA LA LA LA LA
LA LA LA LA LA LA LA
LA LA LA LA LA LA LA

KING OF MORTAR, KING OF BRICKS
THE RIVER STYX WAS A RIVER OF STONES
AND HADES LAID THEM HIGH AND THICK
WITH A MILLION HANDS THAT WERE NOT HIS OWN
AND A MILLION FEET THAT FELL IN LINE
AND STEPPED IN TIME WITH HADES' STEP
AND A MILLION MINDS THAT WERE JUST ONE MIND
LIKE STONES IN A ROW
AND STONE BY STONE
AND ROW BY ROW
THE RIVER ROSE UP, SINGING

ORPHEUS & COMPANY

LA LA LA LA LA LA LA
LA LA LA LA LA LA LA
LA LA LA LA LA LA LA
LA LA LA LA LA LA

© Anaïs Mitchell

(Musical cross-fade / split scene: ORPHEUS & EURYDICE above, HADES & PERSEPHONE below. The COMPANY gives voice to the "Workers" below.)

(#11) CHANT I

COMPANY

OH, KEEP YOUR HEAD, KEEP YOUR HEAD LOW
OH, YOU GOTTA KEEP YOUR HEAD LOW
IF YOU WANNA KEEP YOUR HEAD
OH, YOU GOTTA KEEP YOUR HEAD LOW
KEEP YOUR HEAD, KEEP YOUR HEAD LOW
OH, YOU GOTTA KEEP YOUR HEAD LOW
IF YOU WANNA KEEP YOUR HEAD
OH, YOU GOTTA KEEP YOUR HEAD LOW

PERSEPHONE

IN THE COLDEST TIME OF YEAR
WHY IS IT SO HOT DOWN HERE?
HOTTER THAN A CRUCIBLE
IT AIN'T RIGHT AND IT AIN'T NATURAL

HADES

LOVER YOU WERE GONE SO LONG
LOVER I WAS LONESOME
SO I BUILT A FOUNDRY
IN THE GROUND BENEATH YOUR FEET
AND THERE I FASHIONED THINGS OF STEEL
OIL DRUMS AND AUTOMOBILES
AND THEN I KEPT THAT FURNACE FED
WITH THE FOSSILS OF THE DEAD
LOVER WHEN YOU FEEL THAT FIRE
THINK OF IT AS MY DESIRE
THINK OF IT AS MY DESIRE FOR YOU

ORPHEUS

I'LL SING A SONG
OF A LOVE GONE WRONG

HERMES

A love gone wrong alright!
Every year they had this fight

ORPHEUS

SINGING LA LA LA LA LA LA LA
LA LA LA LA LA LA LA

© Anaïs Mitchell

(ORPHEUS)

LA LA LA LA LA LA LA
LA LA LA LA LA LA

COMPANY

OH, KEEP YOUR HEAD, KEEP YOUR HEAD LOW
OH, YOU GOTTA KEEP YOUR HEAD LOW
IF YOU WANNA KEEP YOUR HEAD
OH, YOU GOTTA KEEP YOUR HEAD LOW
KEEP YOUR HEAD, KEEP YOUR HEAD LOW
OH, YOU GOTTA KEEP YOUR HEAD LOW
IF YOU WANNA KEEP YOUR HEAD

EURYDICE

(returning to ORPHEUS)
LOVER, WHILE YOU SING YOUR SONG
WINTER IS A-COMING ON
SEE I'M STACKIN FIREWOOD
SEE I'M PUTTIN BY SOME FOOD
ORPHEUS!
ALL THE PRETTY SONGS YOU SING AIN'T GONNA
SHELTER US
FROM THE WIND, THE WIND, THE WIND

COMPANY

AOOOH! KUH!
AOOOH! HUH! KUH!

PERSEPHONE

IN THE DARKEST TIME OF YEAR
WHY IS IT SO BRIGHT DOWN HERE?
BRIGHTER THAN A CARNIVAL
IT AIN'T RIGHT AND IT AIN'T NATURAL

HADES

LOVER YOU WERE GONE SO LONG
LOVER I WAS LONESOME
SO I LAID A POWER GRID
IN THE GROUND ON WHICH YOU STOOD
AND WASN'T IT ELECTRIFYING?
WHEN I MADE THE NEON SHINE
SILVER SCREEN, CATHODE RAY
BRIGHTER THAN THE LIGHT OF DAY
LOVER WHEN YOU SEE THAT GLARE
THINK OF IT AS MY DESPAIR
THINK OF IT AS MY DESPAIR FOR YOU

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ORPHEUS

I'LL SING A SONG
OF A LOVE GONE WRONG

HERMES

And when the gods are havin' a fight
Everyone else better hold on tight

ORPHEUS

SINGING LA LA LA LA LA LA LA
LA LA LA LA LA LA LA
LA LA LA LA LA LA LA
LA LA LA LA LA LA

COMPANY

OH, KEEP YOUR HEAD, KEEP YOUR HEAD LOW
OH, YOU GOTTA KEEP YOUR HEAD LOW
IF YOU WANNA KEEP YOUR HEAD
OH, YOU GOTTA KEEP YOUR HEAD LOW
KEEP YOUR HEAD, KEEP YOUR HEAD LOW
OH, YOU GOTTA KEEP YOUR HEAD LOW
IF YOU WANNA KEEP YOUR HEAD

EURYDICE

(to HERMES)
WHILE MY LOVER SINGS HIS SONG
EVERYTHING I'VE SAVED IS GONE
NOTHING LEFT UP ON THE SHELF
FIRE AIN'T GONNA LIGHT ITSELF
NOW I SEE
ALL THE PRETTY SONGS HE SINGS AIN'T GONNA
HARBOR ME
FROM THE WIND, THE WIND, THE WIND

FATES & HERMES

(surrounding EURYDICE)
OOOOOH…

PERSEPHONE

EVERY YEAR IT'S GETTING WORSE
HADESTOWN! HELL ON EARTH!
DID YOU THINK I'D BE IMPRESSED
WITH THIS NEON NECROPOLIS?

I RECALL THERE WAS A TIME
WE WERE HAPPY, YOU AND I

© Anaïs Mitchell

(PERSEPHONE)

IN THE GARDEN WHERE WE MET
NOTHING WAS BETWEEN US YET

BACK BEFORE YOUR FACTORIES
BEFORE YOUR ELECTRICITY
BACK BEFORE YOU BUILT THE WALL
IT AIN'T RIGHT AND IT AIN'T NATURAL

HADES

LOVER, EVERYTHING I DO
I DO IT FOR THE LOVE OF YOU
IF YOU DON'T EVEN WANT MY LOVE
I'LL GIVE IT TO SOMEONE WHO DOES
SOMEONE GRATEFUL FOR HER FATE
SOMEONE WHO APPRECIATES
THE COMFORTS OF A GILDED CAGE
AND DOESN'T TRY TO FLY AWAY
THE MOMENT MOTHER NATURE CALLS
SOMEONE WHO COULD LOVE THESE WALLS
THAT HOLD HER CLOSE AND KEEP HER SAFE
AND THINK OF THEM AS MY EMBRACE

COMPANY

OH, KEEP YOUR HEAD, KEEP YOUR HEAD

ORPHEUS

LA LA LA LA LA LA

EURYDICE

SHELTER US!

HADES

THINK OF THEM AS MY EMBRACE

COMPANY

OH, KEEP YOUR HEAD, KEEP YOUR HEAD

ORPHEUS

LA LA LA LA LA LA

EURYDICE

HARBOR ME!

© Anaïs Mitchell

HADES

("seeing" EURYDICE above)
THINK OF THEM AS MY EMBRACE OF YOU…

(HADES "ascends" and calls on EURYDICE.)

(#12) HEY, LITTLE SONGBIRD

HADES

HEY, LITTLE SONGBIRD, GIVE ME A SONG
I'M A BUSY MAN AND I CAN'T STAY LONG
I'VE GOT CLIENTS TO CALL, I'VE GOT ORDERS TO FILL
I'VE GOT WALLS TO BUILD, I'VE GOT RIOTS TO QUELL
AND THEY'RE GIVING ME HELL BACK IN HADES

HEY, LITTLE SONGBIRD, CAT GOT YOUR TONGUE?
ALWAYS A PITY FOR ONE SO PRETTY AND YOUNG
WHEN POVERTY COMES TO CLIP YOUR WINGS
AND KNOCK THE WIND RIGHT OUT OF YOUR LUNGS
HEY, NOBODY SINGS ON EMPTY

EURYDICE

STRANGE IS THE CALL OF THIS STRANGE MAN
I WANNA FLY DOWN AND FEED AT HIS HAND
I WANT A NICE SOFT PLACE TO LAND
I WANT TO LIE DOWN FOREVER

HADES

HEY LITTLE SONGBIRD, YOU GOT SOMETHING FINE
YOU'D SHINE LIKE A DIAMOND DOWN IN THE MINE
AND THE CHOICE IS YOURS, IF YOU'RE WILLING TO CHOOSE
SEEING AS YOU'VE GOT NOTHING TO LOSE
AND I COULD USE A CANARY

EURYDICE

SUDDENLY NOTHING IS AS IT WAS
WHERE ARE YOU NOW, ORPHEUS?
WASN'T IT GONNA BE, THE TWO OF US?
WEREN'T WE BIRDS OF A FEATHER?

HADES

HEY, LITTLE SONGBIRD, LET ME GUESS
HE'S SOME KIND OF POET, AND HE'S PENNILESS
GIVE HIM YOUR HAND, HE'LL GIVE YOU HIS HAND-TO-MOUTH
HE'LL WRITE YOU A POEM WHEN THE POWER'S OUT
HEY, WHY NOT FLY SOUTH FOR THE WINTER?

© Anaïs Mitchell

(HADES)

HEY, LITTLE SONGBIRD, LOOK ALL AROUND YOU
SEE HOW THE VIPERS AND VULTURES SURROUND YOU
AND THEY'LL TAKE YOU DOWN, THEY'LL PICK YOU CLEAN
IF YOU STICK AROUND SUCH A DESPERATE SCENE
SEE, PEOPLE GET MEAN WHEN THE CHIPS ARE DOWN

(#13) WHEN THE CHIPS ARE DOWN

(HADES gives EURYDICE a coin. "Rattlesnake" sound.)

HERMES

Songbird vs. rattlesnake!

FATES

MMMM…

EURYDICE

What is it?

HERMES

Eurydice was a hungry young girl…

FATES

MMMM…

HADES

Your ticket

HERMES

And Hades gave her a choice to make

FATES

MMMM… MMMM… MMMM

HERMES

A ticket to the underworld

FATES

LIFE AIN'T EASY, LIFE AIN'T FAIR
A GIRL'S GOTTA FIGHT FOR A RIGHTFUL SHARE
WHAT YOU GONNA DO WHEN THE CHIPS ARE DOWN?
NOW THAT THE CHIPS ARE DOWN?
WHAT YOU GONNA DO WHEN THE CHIPS ARE DOWN?
NOW THAT THE CHIPS ARE DOWN

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(FATES)
HELP YOURSELF, TO HELL WITH THE REST
EVEN THE ONE WHO LOVES YOU BEST
WHAT YOU GONNA DO WHEN THE CHIPS ARE DOWN?
NOW THAT THE CHIPS ARE DOWN
WHAT YOU GONNA DO WHEN THE CHIPS ARE DOWN?
NOW THAT THE CHIPS ARE DOWN

EURYDICE
OH, MY ACHING HEART…

FATES
WHAT YOU GONNA DO WHEN THE CHIPS ARE DOWN?
NOW THAT THE CHIPS ARE DOWN

TAKE IF YOU CAN, GIVE IF YOU MUST
AIN'T NOBODY BUT YOURSELF TO TRUST
WHAT YOU GONNA DO WHEN THE CHIPS ARE DOWN?
NOW THAT THE CHIPS ARE DOWN
WHAT YOU GONNA DO WHEN THE CHIPS ARE DOWN?
NOW THAT THE CHIPS ARE DOWN

AIM FOR THE HEART, SHOOT TO KILL
IF YOU DON'T DO IT THEN THE OTHER ONE WILL
WHAT YOU GONNA DO WHEN THE CHIPS ARE DOWN?
NOW THAT THE CHIPS ARE DOWN
WHAT YOU GONNA DO WHEN THE CHIPS ARE DOWN?
NOW THAT THE CHIPS ARE DOWN
AND THE FIRST SHALL BE FIRST
AND THE LAST SHALL BE LAST
CAST YOUR EYES TO HEAVEN
YOU GET A KNIFE IN THE BACK
NOBODY'S RIGHTEOUS
NOBODY'S PROUD
NOBODY'S INNOCENT
NOW THAT THE CHIPS ARE DOWN
NOW THAT THE / NOW THAT THE / NOW THAT THE / NOW THAT THE
NOW THAT THE CHIPS ARE DOWN

(#14) GONE, I'M GONE

EURYDICE
ORPHEUS, MY HEART IS YOURS
ALWAYS WAS AND WILL BE
IT'S MY GUT I CAN'T IGNORE
ORPHEUS, I'M HUNGRY

© Anaïs Mitchell

EURYDICE

OH, MY HEART, IT ACHES TO STAY
BUT THE FLESH WILL HAVE ITS WAY
OH, THE WAY IS DARK AND LONG
I'M ALREADY GONE…

I'm gone

(EURYDICE gives the coin to HERMES. He blows the train whistle… and she's gone. The FATES address the audience.)

FATES

GO AHEAD AND LAY THE BLAME
TALK OF VIRTUE, TALK OF SIN
WOULDN'T YOU HAVE DONE THE SAME
IN HER SHOES, IN HER SKIN
YOU CAN HAVE YOUR PRINCIPLES
WHEN YOU'VE GOT A BELLYFUL
BUT HUNGER HAS A WAY WITH YOU
THERE'S NO TELLING WHAT YOU'RE GONNA DO
WHEN THE CHIPS ARE DOWN
NOW THAT THE CHIPS ARE DOWN
WHAT YOU GONNA DO WHEN THE CHIPS ARE DOWN?
NOW THAT THE CHIPS ARE DOWN

(FATES exit. ORPHEUS arrives.)

(#15) WAIT FOR ME INTRO

ORPHEUS

Eurydice?

HERMES

Hey, the big artiste!
Ain't you working on your masterpiece?

ORPHEUS

Where is she?

HERMES

Brother, what do you care?
You'll find another muse somewhere

ORPHEUS

Where is she?

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HERMES

Why you wanna know?

ORPHEUS

Wherever she is is where I'll go

HERMES

And what if I said she's down below?

ORPHEUS

Down below?

HERMES

Down below
Six feet under the ground below
She called your name before she went
But I guess you weren't listening

ORPHEUS

No!

HERMES

So
Just how far would you go for her?

ORPHEUS

To the end of time
To the end of the earth

HERMES

You got a ticket?

ORPHEUS

No

HERMES

Yeah, I didn't think so
Course, there is another way, but--
Nah, I ain't supposed to say

ORPHEUS

Another way?

HERMES

Around the back
But that ain't easy walking, jack

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(HERMES)

It ain't for the sensitive of soul, so
Do ya really wanna go?

ORPHEUS

With all my heart

HERMES

With all your heart?
Well, that's a start

(#16) WAIT FOR ME

(ORPHEUS begins his journey.)

(HERMES)

HOW TO GET TO HADESTOWN
YOU'LL HAVE TO TAKE THE LONG WAY DOWN
THROUGH THE UNDERGROUND UNDER COVER OF NIGHT
LAYING LOW, STAYING OUT OF SIGHT
AIN'T NO COMPASS, BROTHER, AIN'T NO MAP
JUST A TELEPHONE WIRE AND A RAILROAD TRACK
KEEP ON WALKING AND DON'T LOOK BACK
TILL YOU GET TO THE BOTTOMLAND

ORPHEUS

WAIT FOR ME, I'M COMING
WAIT, I'M COMING WITH YOU
WAIT FOR ME, I'M COMING TOO
I'M COMING TOO

HERMES

RIVER STYX IS HIGH AND WIDE
CINDERBRICKS AND RAZORWIRE
WALLS OF IRON AND CONCRETE
HOUND DOGS HOWLING ROUND THE GATE
THOSE DOGS'LL LAY DOWN AND PLAY DEAD
IF YOU GOT THE BONES, IF YOU GOT THE BREAD
BUT IF ALL YOU GOT IS YOUR OWN TWO LEGS
JUST BE GLAD YOU GOT 'EM

ORPHEUS & COMPANY

WAIT FOR ME, I'M COMING
WAIT, I'M COMING WITH YOU
WAIT FOR ME, I'M COMING TOO
I'M COMING TOO

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HERMES

YOU'RE ON THE LAM, YOU'RE ON THE RUN
DON'T GIVE YOUR NAME, YOU DON'T HAVE ONE
AND DON'T LOOK NO ONE IN THE EYE
THAT TOWN'LL TRY TO SUCK YOU DRY

THEY'LL SUCK YOUR BRAIN, THEY'LL SUCK YOUR BREATH
THEY'LL PLUCK THE HEART RIGHT OUT YOUR CHEST
THEY'LL TRUSS YOU UP IN YOUR SUNDAY BEST
AND STUFF YOUR MOUTH WITH COTTON

ORPHEUS & COMPANY

WAIT FOR ME, I'M COMING
WAIT, I'M COMING WITH YOU
WAIT FOR ME, I'M COMING TOO
I'M COMING
WAIT / WAIT / WAIT

ORPHEUS

WAIT

(ORPHEUS disappears into darkness.)

(#17) WHY WE BUILD THE WALL

(Below, HADES addresses the "Workers.")

HADES

WHY DO WE BUILD THE WALL?
MY CHILDREN, MY CHILDREN
WHY DO WE BUILD THE WALL?

COMPANY

WHY DO WE BUILD THE WALL?
WE BUILD THE WALL TO KEEP US FREE
THAT'S WHY WE BUILD THE WALL
WE BUILD THE WALL TO KEEP US FREE

HADES

HOW DOES THE WALL KEEP US FREE?
MY CHILDREN, MY CHILDREN
HOW DOES THE WALL KEEP US FREE?

COMPANY

HOW DOES THE WALL KEEP US FREE?
THE WALL KEEPS OUT THE ENEMY

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(COMPANY)
AND WE BUILD THE WALL TO KEEP US FREE
THAT'S WHY WE BUILD THE WALL
WE BUILD THE WALL TO KEEP US FREE

HADES
WHO DO WE CALL THE ENEMY?
MY CHILDREN, MY CHILDREN
WHO DO WE CALL THE ENEMY?

COMPANY
WHO DO WE CALL THE ENEMY?
THE ENEMY IS POVERTY
AND THE WALL KEEPS OUT THE ENEMY
AND WE BUILD THE WALL TO KEEP US FREE
THAT'S WHY WE BUILD THE WALL
WE BUILD THE WALL TO KEEP US FREE

HADES
BECAUSE WE HAVE AND THEY HAVE NOT!
MY CHILDREN, MY CHILDREN
BECAUSE THEY WANT WHAT WE HAVE GOT!

COMPANY
BECAUSE WE HAVE AND THEY HAVE NOT
BECAUSE THEY WANT WHAT WE HAVE GOT
THE ENEMY IS POVERTY
AND THE WALL KEEPS OUT THE ENEMY
AND WE BUILD THE WALL TO KEEP US FREE
THAT'S WHY WE BUILD THE WALL
WE BUILD THE WALL TO KEEP US FREE

(EURYDICE appears.)

HADES
WHAT DO WE HAVE THAT THEY SHOULD WANT?
MY CHILDREN, MY CHILDREN?
WHAT DO WE HAVE THAT THEY SHOULD WANT?

EURYDICE
WHAT DO WE HAVE THAT THEY SHOULD WANT?
WE HAVE A WALL TO WORK UPON
WE HAVE WORK AND THEY HAVE NONE

HADES
AND OUR WORK IS NEVER DONE

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(HADES)

MY CHILDREN, MY CHILDREN
AND THE WAR IS NEVER WON

COMPANY

THE ENEMY IS POVERTY
AND THE WALL KEEPS OUT THE ENEMY
AND WE BUILD THE WALL TO KEEP US FREE
THAT'S WHY WE BUILD THE WALL
WE BUILD THE WALL TO KEEP US FREE
WE BUILD THE WALL TO KEEP US FREE

HERMES

Then Hades told Eurydice:

HADES

There are papers to be signed
Step into my office

HERMES

And he closed the door behind

Now, a lot can happen behind closed doors
That's for sure, brother, that's a fact
But a lot can happen on the factory floor
When the foreman turns his back

(EURYDICE retreats with HADES.)

PERSEPHONE

(to audience)
Anybody want a drink?

INTERMISSION

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ENTR'ACTE

(The COMPANY enters and engages the audience.)

(#18) OUR LADY OF THE UNDERGROUND

PERSEPHONE

I don't know about you boys…

BUT IF YOU'RE LIKE ME THEN HANGING AROUND
THIS OLD MANHOLE IS BRINGING YOU DOWN
SIX FEET UNDER GETTING UNDER YOUR SKIN
CABIN FEVER IS A-SETTING IN

AND YOU'RE STIR CRAZY! STUCK IN A RUT!
YOU COULD USE A LITTLE PICK-ME-UP
I CAN GIVE YOU WHAT IT IS YOU CRAVE
A LITTLE SOMETHING FROM THE GOOD OLD DAYS

HEY, I GOT THE WIND RIGHT HERE IN A JAR
I GOT THE RAIN ON TAP AT THE BAR
I GOT SUNSHINE UP ON THE SHELF
ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE MYSELF

BROTHER, WHAT'S MY NAME? MY NAME IS

COMPANY

OUR LADY OF THE UNDERGROUND!

PERSEPHONE

BROTHER, WHAT'S MY NAME?

COMPANY

OUR LADY OF WAYS!
OUR LADY OF MEANS!

PERSEPHONE

BROTHER, WHAT'S MY NAME?
MY NAME IS

COMPANY

OUR LADY OF THE UPSIDE DOWN!

PERSEPHONE

WANNA KNOW MY NAME?
I'LL TELL YOU MY NAME

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(PERSEPHONE)

PERSEPHONE!

COME HERE, BROTHER, LET ME GUESS
IT'S THE LITTLE THINGS YOU MISS
SPRING FLOWERS, AUTUMN LEAVES
ASK ME, BROTHER, AND YOU SHALL RECEIVE

OR MAYBE THESE JUST AIN'T ENOUGH
MAYBE YOU'RE LOOKING FOR SOME STRONGER STUFF
I GOT A SIGHT FOR THE SOREST EYE
WHEN'S THE LAST TIME YOU SAW THE SKY?

WIPE AWAY YOUR TEARS, BROTHER
BROTHER, I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL
I CAN SEE YOU'RE BLINDED
BY THE SADNESS OF IT ALL
LOOK A LITTLE CLOSER AND
EVERYTHING WILL BE REVEALED
LOOK A LITTLE CLOSER
THERE'S A CRACK IN THE WALL!

YOU WANT STARS? I GOT A SKYFUL
PUT A QUARTER IN THE SLOT, YOU'LL GET AN EYEFUL
YOU WANT THE MOON? I GOT HER TOO
SHE'S RIGHT HERE WAITING IN MY PAY-PER-VIEW

OOH, HOW LONG'S IT BEEN?
A LITTLE MOONSHINE AIN'T NO SIN
ONE AT A TIME BOYS, STRAIGHT LINE
WHAT THE BOSS DON'T KNOW
THE BOSS WON'T MIND…

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HADESTOWN (BELOW)

(#19) WAY DOWN HADESTOWN II

(EURYDICE emerges from behind closed doors.)

HERMES

Now, in Hadestown there was a lot of souls

COMPANY

OH, KEEP YOUR HEAD, KEEP YOUR HEAD

HERMES

Working on a wall with all their might

COMPANY

HUH! KUH! OH YOU GOTTA KEEP YOUR HEAD

HERMES

Ya see, they kept their heads down low

COMPANY

HUH! KUH! IF YOU WANNA KEEP YOUR HEAD

HERMES

You couldn't quite see their faces right…

But you could hear them singing

COMPANY

OH, KEEP YOUR HEAD, KEEP YOUR HEAD

HERMES

Swinging their hammers in the cold hard ground
You could hear the sound of the pickaxe ringing

COMPANY

HUH! KUH! IF YOU WANNA KEEP YOUR HEAD

HERMES

And they called it "freedom"

EURYDICE

I'm free
We're free
Mister Hades set us free

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FATES

MISTER HADES SET YOU FREE
TO WORK YOURSELF INTO THE GROUND
FREE TO SPEND ETERNITY
IN THE FACTORY AND THE WAREHOUSE
WHERE THE WHISTLES SCREAM AND THE FOREMEN SHOUT
AND YOU'RE PUNCHING IN
AND PUNCHING IN
AND PUNCHING IN
AND YOU CAN'T PUNCH OUT

AND YOU'RE WAY DOWN HADESTOWN
WAY DOWN HADESTOWN
WAY DOWN HADESTOWN
WAY DOWN UNDER THE GROUND!

COMPANY

(under the FATES)
OH, KEEP YOUR HEAD, KEEP YOUR HEAD LOW
OH YOU GOTTA KEEP YOUR HEAD LOW
IF YOU WANNA KEEP YOUR HEAD
KEEP YOUR HEAD LOW

EURYDICE

But I don't understand…
You said this was the promise-land

FATES

You sell your soul, you get your due
That is all we promised you

HEARD THAT MIGHTY TRUMPET SOUND
CROSSED THE RIVER TO THE OTHER SIDE
THOUGHT YOU'D LAY YOUR BURDENS DOWN
AND REST IN PEACE IN PARADISE?
WELL THERE AIN'T NO REST FOR YOUR WEARY SOUL
HADES KEEPS YOU TOILING
SHOVELING COAL IN A BIG BLACK HOLE
TO KEEP HIS BOILER BOILING

WAY DOWN HADESTOWN
WAY DOWN HADESTOWN
WAY DOWN HADESTOWN
WAY DOWN UNDER THE GROUND!

© Anaïs Mitchell

COMPANY

(under the FATES)
OH, KEEP YOUR HEAD, KEEP YOUR HEAD LOW
OH YOU GOTTA KEEP YOUR HEAD LOW
IF YOU WANNA KEEP YOUR HEAD
KEEP YOUR HEAD LOW

EURYDICE

But don't you see?
It's different with me

FATES

Different than who?
(indicate Workers/audience)
They thought they were different, too…

DOWN IN THE RIVER OF OBLIVION
YOU KISSED YOUR LITTLE LIFE GOODBYE
AND HADES LAID HIS HANDS ON YA
AND GAVE YA EVERLASTING LIFE
AND EVERLASTING OVERTIME
IN THE MINE AND THE MILL AND THE MACHINERY
RUNNING HIS OLD ASSEMBLY LINE
FROM PLUTO TO THE PLEIADES

WAY DOWN HADESTOWN
WAY DOWN HADESTOWN
WAY DOWN HADESTOWN
WAY DOWN UNDER THE GROUND

COMPANY

(under the FATES)
OH, KEEP YOUR HEAD, KEEP YOUR HEAD LOW
OH YOU GOTTA KEEP YOUR HEAD LOW
IF YOU WANNA KEEP YOUR HEAD
KEEP YOUR HEAD LOW

EURYDICE

There must be some mistake…

FATES

Oh, it was a mistake all right
Now you got to pay / And pay
And pay for it / For the rest of your life

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HERMES

Ya see, it's like I said before
A lot can happen behind closed doors
Eurydice was a hungry young girl
But she wasn't hungry anymore
What she was instead, was dead

Dead to the world anyway
Ya see, she went behind those doors
And signed her life away

FATES

SAW THAT WHEEL UP IN THE SKY
HEARD THE BIG BELL TOLLING
A LOT OF SOULS HAVE GOTTA DIE
TO KEEP THE RUST BELT ROLLING
A LOT OF SPIRITS GOTTA BREAK
TO MAKE THE UNDERWORLD GO ROUND
WAY DOWN HADESTOWN
WAY DOWN UNDER THE GROUND

(#20) FLOWERS

EURYDICE

WHAT I WANTED WAS TO FALL ASLEEP
CLOSE MY EYES AND DISAPPEAR
LIKE A PETAL ON A STREAM, A FEATHER ON THE AIR

LILY WHITE AND POPPY RED
I TREMBLED WHEN HE LAID ME OUT
YOU WON'T FEEL A THING, HE SAID
WHEN YOU GO DOWN

NOTHING GONNA WAKE YOU NOW

DREAMS ARE SWEET UNTIL THEY'RE NOT
MEN ARE KIND UNTIL THEY AREN'T
FLOWERS BLOOM UNTIL THEY ROT AND FALL APART
IS ANYBODY LISTENING?
I OPEN MY MOUTH AND NOTHING COMES OUT
NOTHING

NOTHING GONNA WAKE ME NOW

FLOWERS, I REMEMBER FIELDS
OF FLOWERS, SOFT BENEATH MY HEELS

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(EURYDICE)

WALKING IN THE SUN
I REMEMBER SOMEONE
SOMEONE BY MY SIDE
TURNED HIS FACE TO MINE

AND THEN I TURNED AWAY
INTO THE SHADE

YOU, THE ONE I LEFT BEHIND
IF YOU EVER WALK THIS WAY
COME AND FIND ME
LYING IN THE BED I MADE

(ORPHEUS arrives below.)

(#21) COME HOME WITH ME II

ORPHEUS

Come home with me

EURYDICE

It's you!

ORPHEUS

It's me

EURYDICE

Orpheus…

ORPHEUS

Eurydice
Come home with me
Please come home
I'm not going back alone

EURYDICE

But how'd you get here?
On the train?

ORPHEUS

No, I walked! I walked and sang…

EURYDICE

And how'd you get beyond the wall?

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ORPHEUS

I sang a song so beautiful
The stones wept and they let me in
And I can sing us home again

EURYDICE

No, you can't

ORPHEUS

Yes, I can

EURYDICE

Are you always this confident?

ORPHEUS

When I look at you, I am

EURYDICE

When you look at me, what do you see?

ORPHEUS

I see someone stronger than me
I see somebody who survives
I see my wife

EURYDICE

Why are you getting on your knees?

ORPHEUS

I'm asking you to marry me
Marry me
Say "I do"
I came all this way to ask you to

EURYDICE

… Orpheus

ORPHEUS

Eurydice

EURYDICE

The two of us
You and me
That is how it would have been
If the world was different
But have you seen the world?

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(EURYDICE)

It isn't beautiful!
It doesn't change for me and you
No matter how… much… we want it to

FATES

CAN'T YOU SEE SHE MADE A DEAL?
GAVE HER WORD, TOOK A VOW
SEE IT'S ALL BEEN SIGNED AND SEALED
SHE BELONGS TO HADES NOW
SHE BELONGS TO HIM

ORPHEUS

That isn't true

FATES

SHE BELONGS TO HIM

ORPHEUS

It isn't true

FATES

SHE BELONGS TO HIM

ORPHEUS

(to EURYDICE)
Say it isn't true

FATES

SHE BELONGS TO HIM

EURYDICE

"I do"

(#22) PAPERS

(HADES appears and approaches ORPHEUS.)

HADES

Young man!

I don't think we've met before
You're not from around here, son
I don't know who the hell you are
But I can tell you don't belong

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(HADES)

These are working people, son
Law-abiding citizens
Go back to where you came from
You're on the wrong side of the fence

HERMES

Now, Orpheus was a poor boy

HADES

Did ya hear me, son?

HERMES

And Hades was a mighty king

HADES

You better run…

HERMES

But this poor boy raised up his voice
Even though it was trembling

ORPHEUS

I'm not going back alone
I came to take her home

HADES

Who the hell you think you are?
Who the hell you think you're talking to?
She couldn't go anywhere
Even if she wanted to
You're not from around here, son
If you were, then you would know
Everything and everyone
In Hadestown, I own

As for you…
Everybody gather round!
Everybody look and see!
What becomes of trespassers
With no respect for property!

(Interlude. HADES returns to his office. ORPHEUS tries to reach EURYDICE but is deflected and ultimately defeated by the FATES.)

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(#23) NOTHING CHANGES

FATES

WHY THE STRUGGLE, WHY THE STRAIN?
WHY MAKE TROUBLE, WHY MAKE SCENES?
WHY GO AGAINST THE GRAIN?
WHY SWIM UPSTREAM?

IT AIN'T, IT AIN'T, IT AIN'T NO USE
YOU'RE BOUND, YOU'RE BOUND, YOU'RE BOUND TO LOSE
WHAT'S DONE, WHAT'S DONE, WHAT'S DONE IS DONE
THAT'S THE WAY THE RIVER RUNS

SO WHY GET WET? WHY BREAK A SWEAT?
WHY WASTE YOUR PRECIOUS BREATH?
WHY BEAT YOUR HANDSOME BROW?
NOTHING CHANGES
NOTHING CHANGES
NOTHING CHANGES ANYHOW

(#24) IF IT'S TRUE

ORPHEUS

IF IT'S TRUE WHAT THEY SAY
IF MY LOVE IS GONE FOR GOOD
THEY CAN TAKE THIS HEART AWAY
THEY CAN TAKE THIS FLESH AND BLOOD
TAKE MY MOUTH THAT KISSED HER MOUTH
TAKE MY TONGUE THAT SUNG HER PRAISE
TAKE MY ARMS THAT USED TO REACH OUT
IN THE DARK TO WHERE SHE LAY

IF IT'S TRUE WHAT THEY SAY
I'LL BE ON MY WAY

IF IT'S TRUE WHAT THEY SAY
IF THERE'S NOTHING TO BE DONE
IF THERE'S NO PART TO BE PLAYED
IF THERE'S NO SONG TO BE SUNG

TAKE THIS VOICE, TAKE THESE HANDS
I CAN'T USE THEM ANYWAY
TAKE THIS MUSIC AND THE MEMORY OF
THE MUSE FROM WHICH IT CAME

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(ORPHEUS)

IF IT'S TRUE WHAT THEY SAY
I'LL BE ON MY WAY
WE CAN ALL BE ON OUR WAY
IF IT'S TRUE WHAT THEY SAY

HERMES

Persephone heard the poor boy sing
And it broke her heart in two
So she went to find that mighty king
To see what she could do

And the boy…
The boy kept singing loud and clear
And everybody knows
That walls have ears

ORPHEUS & COMPANY

BUT THE ONES WHO TELL THE LIES
ARE THE SOLEMNEST TO SWEAR
AND THE ONES WHO LOAD THE DICE
ALWAYS SAY THE TOSS IS FAIR
AND THE ONES WHO DEAL THE CARDS
ARE THE ONES WHO TAKE THE TRICKS
WITH THEIR HANDS OVER THEIR HEARTS
WHILE WE PLAY THE GAME THEY FIX
AND THE ONES WHO SPEAK THE WORD
ALWAYS SAY IT WAS THE LAST
AND NO ANSWER WILL BE HEARD
TO THE QUESTION NO ONE ASKS

ORPHEUS

(to EURYDICE)
SO I ASK YOU AS A BROTHER
AND I ASK YOU AS A FRIEND
AND I ASK YOU AS A LOVER
AND I ASK YOU ONCE AGAIN

IS IT TRUE WHAT THEY SAY?

(#25) HOW LONG

(PERSEPHONE finds HADES.)

PERSEPHONE

How long have we been married?

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HADES

Since the world began

PERSEPHONE

I don't mind if you look at other girls now and then

HADES

The girl means nothing to me

PERSEPHONE

I know
But she means everything to him

HADES

So?

PERSEPHONE

Let her go

HADES, MY HUSBAND, HADES, MY LIGHT
HADES, MY DARKNESS
IF YOU HAD HEARD HOW HE SANG TONIGHT
YOU'D PITY POOR ORPHEUS
ALL OF HIS SORROW WON'T FIT IN HIS CHEST
IT JUST BURNS LIKE A FIRE IN THE PIT OF HIS CHEST
AND HIS HEART IS A BIRD ON A SPIT IN HIS CHEST
HOW LONG, HOW LONG, HOW LONG?

HADES

HOW LONG? JUST AS LONG AS HADES IS KING
NOTHING COMES OF WISHING ON STARS
NOTHING COMES OF THE SONGS PEOPLE SING
HOWEVER SORRY THEY ARE
GIVE THEM A PIECE AND THEY'LL TAKE IT ALL
SHOW THEM THE CRACK AND THEY'LL TEAR DOWN THE WALL
LEND THEM AN EAR AND THE KINGDOM WILL FALL
THE KINGDOM WILL FALL FOR A SONG

PERSEPHONE

WHAT DOES HE CARE FOR THE LOGIC OF KINGS?
THE LAWS OF YOUR UNDERWORLD?
IT IS ONLY FOR LOVE THAT HE SINGS
HE SINGS FOR THE LOVE OF A GIRL

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HADES

YOU AND YOUR PITY DON'T FIT IN MY BED
YOU JUST BURN LIKE A FIRE IN THE PIT OF MY BED
AND I TURN LIKE A BIRD ON A SPIT IN MY BED
HOW LONG, HOW LONG, HOW LONG?

PERSEPHONE

HOW LONG? JUST AS LONG AS I AM YOUR WIFE
IT'S TRUE THE EARTH MUST DIE
BUT THEN THE EARTH COMES BACK TO LIFE
AND THE SUN JUST GOES ON RISING

HADES & PERSEPHONE

AND HOW DOES THE SUN EVEN FIT IN THE SKY?
IT JUST BURNS LIKE A FIRE IN THE PIT OF THE SKY
AND THE EARTH IS A BIRD ON A SPIT IN THE SKY
HOW LONG, HOW LONG, HOW LONG?

(On the factory floor, the Workers work as ORPHEUS continues his song.)

HERMES

Now everybody knows that walls have ears

ORPHEUS & COMPANY

IS IT TRUE? (IS IT TRUE?)

HERMES

And they had heard what the boy was sayin'

COMPANY

IS IT TRUE? (IS IT TRUE?)

HERMES

A million tons of stone and steel

COMPANY

IS IT TRUE? (IS IT TRUE?)

HERMES

Echoed his refrain

(HADES & PERSEPHONE find ORPHEUS & EURYDICE.)

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(#26) CHANT II

HADES

(to ORPHEUS)
WHEN I WAS A YOUNG MAN LIKE YOU
SON, I HELD A WOMAN TOO
HELD HER IN MY NAKED HANDS
WHEN I WAS A YOUNG MAN

NOW YOU KNOW HOW IT FEELS
WOMEN ARE AS SLICK AS EELS
WOMAN, QUICKER THAN THE ASP
ALWAYS SLIPPING FROM YOUR GRASP

TAKE IT FROM A MAN NO LONGER YOUNG
IF YOU WANT TO HOLD A WOMAN, SON
HANG A CHAIN AROUND HER THROAT
MADE OF MANY KARAT GOLD

SHACKLE HER FROM WRIST TO WRIST
WITH STERLING SILVER BRACELETS
FILL HER POCKETS FULL OF STONES
PRECIOUS ONES, DIAMONDS
BIND HER WITH A GOLDEN BAND
TAKE IT FROM AN OLD MAN

ORPHEUS

LA LA LA LA LA LA LA

EURYDICE

LA LA LA LA LA LA LA

COMPANY
OH, KEEP YOUR HEAD, KEEP YOUR HEAD LOW
OH, YOU GOTTA KEEP YOUR HEAD LOW
IF YOU WANNA KEEP YOUR HEAD

OH, HE SAID HE'D SHELTER US
HE SAID HE'D HARBOR ME
HE SAID WE'D BUILD THEM UP
AND THEN THE WALLS WOULD SET US FREE

I'M GONNA COUNT TO THREE
AND THEN I'LL RAISE MY HEAD
SINGING ONE! TWO! IS IT TRUE?
IS IT TRUE WHAT HE SAID?

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PERSEPHONE

(to EURYDICE)
WHEN I WAS A YOUNG GIRL LIKE YOU
SISTER, I WAS HUNGRY TOO
HUNGRY FOR THE UNDERWORLD
WHEN I WAS A YOUNG GIRL

NOW YOU KNOW HOW IT TASTES
THE FRUIT OF MISTER HADES' WAYS
SISTER, IT'S A BITTER WINE
SPIT IT OUT WHILE YOU STILL HAVE TIME

AND TAKE IT FROM A WOMAN OF MY AGE
LOVE IS NOT A GILDED CAGE
ALL THE WEALTH WITHIN THESE WALLS
WILL NEVER BUY THE THING CALLED LOVE

LOVE WAS WHEN HE CAME TO ME
BEGGING ON HIS BENDED KNEES
TO PLEASE HAVE PITY ON HIS HEART
AND LET HIM LAY ME IN THE DIRT

I FELT HIS ARMS AROUND ME THEN
WE DIDN'T NEED A WEDDING BED
DARK SEED SCATTERED ON THE GROUND
AND WILD BIRDS WERE FLYING AROUND

THAT'S WHEN I BECAME HIS WIFE
BUT THAT WAS IN ANOTHER LIFE
THAT WAS IN ANOTHER WORLD
WHEN I WAS A YOUNG GIRL

EURYDICE

LA LA LA LA LA LA LA

ORPHEUS

LA LA LA LA LA LA LA

COMPANY

OH, KEEP YOUR HEAD, KEEP YOUR HEAD LOW
OH, YOU GOTTA KEEP YOUR HEAD LOW
IF YOU WANNA KEEP YOUR HEAD

OH, HE SAID HE'D SHELTER US
HE SAID HE'D HARBOR ME
HE SAID WE'D SOLDIER ON

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(COMPANY)
AND THEN THE WAR WOULD BRING US PEACE

WE'RE GONNA COUNT TO THREE
AND THEN WE'LL RAISE OUR HEADS
SINGING ONE! TWO! IS IT TRUE?
IS IT TRUE WHAT HE SAID?

HADES
YOUNG MAN! I WAS YOUNG ONCE TOO
I ONCE SANG THE YOUNG MAN'S BLUES
WOMEN COME AND WOMEN GO
GET YOU HIGH AND GET YOU LOW

ONE DAY SHE'S HOT THE NEXT SHE'S COLD
WOMEN ARE SO… SEASONAL!
WOMEN LEAVE AGAIN AND AGAIN
TAKE IT FROM AN OLD MAN

NOW I SING A DIFFERENT SONG
ONE I CAN DEPEND UPON
A SIMPLE TUNE, A STEADY BEAT
THE MUSIC OF MACHINERY

YA HEAR THAT HEAVY METAL SOUND?
THE SYMPHONY OF HADESTOWN
AND IN THIS SYMPHONY OF MINE
ARE POWER CHORDS AND POWER LINES

YOUNG MAN! YOU CAN STRUM YOUR LYRE
I HAVE STRUNG THE WORLD IN WIRE
YOUNG MAN, YOU CAN SING YOUR DITTY
I CONDUCT THE ELECTRIC CITY!

I'LL TELL YOU WHAT YOUNG MAN
SINCE MY WIFE IS SUCH A FAN
AND SINCE I'M GONNA COUNT TO THREE
AND PUT YOU OUT OF YOUR MISERY

HADES & COMPANY
ONE!

HADES
GIVE ME ONE MORE SONG
ONE MORE SONG BEFORE I SEND YOU

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HADES & COMPANY

TWO!

HADES

TO THE GREAT BEYOND
WHERE NOBODY CAN HEAR YOU SINGING

HADES & COMPANY

THREE!

HADES

SING A SONG FOR ME!
MAKE ME LAUGH, MAKE ME WEEP
MAKE THE KING FEEL YOUNG AGAIN…
SING – FOR AN OLD MAN!

(#27) EPIC III

ORPHEUS

HEAVY AND HARD IS THE HEART OF THE KING
KING OF IRON, KING OF STEEL
THE HEART OF THE KING LOVES EVERYTHING
LIKE THE HAMMER LOVES THE NAIL

BUT THE HEART OF A MAN IS A SIMPLE ONE
SMALL AND SOFT, FLESH AND BLOOD
AND ALL THAT IT LOVES IS A WOMAN
A WOMAN IS ALL THAT IT LOVES

AND HADES IS KING OF THE SCYTHE AND THE SWORD
HE COVERS THE WORLD IN THE COLOR OF RUST
HE SCRAPES THE SKY AND HE SCARS THE EARTH
AND HE COMES DOWN HEAVY AND HARD ON US

BUT EVEN THAT HARDEST OF HEARTS UNHARDENED
SUDDENLY WHEN HE SAW HER THERE
PERSEPHONE IN HER MOTHER'S GARDEN
SUN ON HER SHOULDERS, WIND IN HER HAIR

THE SMELL OF THE FLOWERS SHE HELD IN HER HAND
AND THE POLLEN THAT FELL FROM HER FINGERTIPS
AND SUDDENLY HADES WAS ONLY A MAN
WITH A TASTE OF NECTAR UPON HIS LIPS, SINGING

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ORPHEUS & COMPANY

LA LA LA LA LA LA LA
LA LA LA LA LA LA LA
LA LA LA LA LA LA LA
LA LA LA LA LA LA

LA LA LA LA LA LA LA
LA LA LA LA LA LA LA (OH, SINGING)
LA LA LA LA LA LA LA
LA LA LA LA LA LA

LA LA LA LA LA LA LA
LA LA LA LA LA LA LA (OH, SINGING)
LA LA LA LA LA LA LA
LA LA LA LA LA LA

ORPHEUS

AND WHAT HAS BECOME OF THE HEART OF THAT MAN
NOW THAT THE MAN IS KING?
WHAT HAS BECOME OF THE HEART OF THAT MAN
NOW THAT HE HAS EVERYTHING?

THE MORE HE HAS, THE MORE HE HOLDS
THE GREATER THE WEIGHT OF THE WORLD ON HIS SHOULDERS
SEE HOW HE LABORS BENEATH THAT LOAD
AFRAID TO LOOK UP AND AFRAID TO LET GO

HE KEEPS HIS HEAD LOW, HE KEEPS HIS BACK BENDING
HE'S GROWN SO AFRAID THAT HE'LL LOSE WHAT HE OWNS
BUT WHAT HE DOESN'T KNOW IS THAT WHAT HE'S DEFENDING
IS ALREADY GONE

WHERE IS THE TREASURE INSIDE OF YOUR CHEST?
WHERE IS YOUR PLEASURE? WHERE IS YOUR YOUTH?
WHERE IS THE MAN WITH HIS HAT IN HIS HAND
WHO STANDS IN THE GARDEN WITH NOTHING TO LOSE? SINGING
LA LA LA LA LA LA LA

HADES

LA LA LA LA LA LA LA

ORPHEUS

LA LA LA LA LA LA LA

HADES & ORPHEUS

LA LA LA LA LA LA

© Anaïs Mitchell

(#28) LOVER'S DESIRE

HERMES

And one song became two songs

HADES

That's good

HERMES

And two songs became three

ORPHEUS

It's not finished…

HERMES

It ain't so much that the kingdom fell
It just got swept off its feet
And Hades and Persephone
They took each other's hands
And brother, you know what they did?
They danced

(HADES and PERSEPHONE dance.)

HERMES

And when the dance was over
The poor boy asked the king

ORPHEUS

Can we go?

HADES

I don't know

HERMES

And the walls were listening

(#29) WORD TO THE WISE

FATES

(to HADES)
GOTTA THINK QUICK, GOTTA SAVE FACE
CAUGHT TWEEN A ROCK AND A HARD PLACE
WHAT YOU GONNA DO? WHAT YOU GONNA DO?
WHAT YOU GONNA DO? WHAT YOU GONNA DO NOW?

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(FATES)
IF YOU TELL 'EM NO, YOU'RE A HEARTLESS MAN
AND YOU'RE GONNA HAVE A MARTYR ON YOUR HANDS
IF YOU LET 'EM GO, YOU'RE A SPINELESS KING
AND YOU'RE NEVER GONNA GET EM IN LINE AGAIN

DAMNED IF YOU DON'T, DAMNED IF YOU DO
WHOLE DAMN-NATION'S WATCHING YOU
WHAT YOU GONNA DO? WHAT YOU GONNA DO?
WHAT YOU GONNA DO? WHAT YOU GONNA DO NOW?

HERE'S A LITTLE TIP
WORD TO THE WISE
HERE'S A LITTLE SNIPPET OF ADVICE
MEN ARE FOOLS
MEN ARE FRAIL
GIVE THEM THE ROPE AND THEY'LL HANG THEMSELVES

(#30) HIS KISS, THE RIOT

HADES
(to himself)
THE DEVIL TAKE THIS ORPHEUS
AND HIS BELLADONNA KISS
BEAUTIFUL AND POISONOUS
LOVELY! DEADLY!
NOW IT THICKENS ON MY TONGUE
NOW IT QUICKENS IN MY LUNGS

NOW I'M STRICKEN! NOW I'M STUNG!
IT'S DONE ALREADY

DANGEROUS THIS JACK OF HEARTS
WITH HIS KISS THE RIOT STARTS

ALL MY CHILDREN CAME HERE POOR
CLAMORING FOR BED AND BOARD
NOW WHAT DO THEY CLAMOR FOR?
FREEDOM! FREEDOM!
HAVE I MADE MYSELF THEIR LORD
TO FALL UPON THE SWORD
OF SOME PAUPER'S MINOR CHORD
WHO WILL LEAD THEM?

WHO LAYS ALL THE BEST LAID PLANS?
WHO MAKES WORK FOR IDLE HANDS?

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HADES

(to HERMES)
ONLY ONE THING TO BE DONE
LET THEM THINK THAT THEY HAVE WON
LET THEM LEAVE TOGETHER UNDER
ONE CONDITION

ORPHEUS, THE UNDERSIGNED
SHALL NOT TURN TO LOOK BEHIND
SHE'S OUT OF SIGHT!
AND HE'S OUT OF HIS MIND!

EVERY COWARD SEEMS COURAGEOUS
IN THE SAFETY OF THE CROWD
BRAVERY CAN BE CONTAGIOUS
WHEN THE BAND IS PLAYING LOUD
NOTHING MAKES A MAN SO BOLD
AS A WOMAN'S SMILE AND A HAND TO HOLD
BUT ALL ALONE, HIS BLOOD RUNS THIN

AND DOUBT COMES
DOUBT COMES IN

(#31) PROMISES

HERMES

(to ORPHEUS and EURYDICE)
Here's what Mister Hades said:
He said he'd let you go

EURYDICE

He did?

ORPHEUS

He did?

HERMES

He did
It's just…there's one thing, though
You have to walk

ORPHEUS

We can walk
We can walk
I know the way

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EURYDICE

You do?

ORPHEUS

That's how I got here
We'll go back the way I came

HERMES

Alright, alright but here's the thing
It ain't easy walking jack
He said you have to walk in front
And she has to walk in back

And if you turn to look at her
To make sure she's coming too
Then she'll be gone forever
And ain't nothing you can do

You got to trust each other
You got to have no doubt
If you got something to say to each other
Say it now…

ORPHEUS

Eurydice

EURYDICE

Orpheus

ORPHEUS

I know the way
I promise

EURYDICE

PROMISES YOU MADE TO ME
YOU SAID THE RIVERS AND THE TREES
WOULD FILL OUR POCKETS AND OUR PLATES
PROMISES YOU MADE
YOU SAID THE BIRDS WOULD BLANKET US
YOU SAID THE WORLD WAS GENEROUS
AND WOULDN'T TURN ITS BACK ON US
THE RIVER FROZE, THE TREES WERE BARE
AND ALL THE BIRDS, THEY DISAPPEARED
AND SO ME TOO, I FLEW AWAY
FROM PROMISES YOU MADE

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ORPHEUS

PROMISES YOU MADE TO ME
YOU SAID THAT YOU WOULD STAY WITH ME
WHATEVER WEATHER CAME OUR WAY
PROMISES YOU MADE
AND WE WOULD WALK SIDE BY SIDE
THROUGH ALL THE SEASONS OF OUR LIVES
NEATH ANY SKY, DOWN ANY ROAD
ANY WAY THE WIND BLOWS

I HAVE NO RING FOR YOUR FINGER
I HAVE NO BANQUET TABLE TO LAY
I HAVE NO BED OF FEATHERS
WHATEVER PROMISES I MADE

CAN'T PROMISE YOU FAIR SKY ABOVE
CAN'T PROMISE YOU KIND ROAD BELOW
BUT I'LL WALK WITH YOU MY LOVE
ANY WAY THE WIND BLOWS

EURYDICE

I DON'T NEED GOLD, DON'T NEED SILVER
BREAD WHEN I'M HUNGRY, FIRE WHEN I'M COLD
DON'T NEED A RING FOR MY FINGER
JUST NEED A STEADY HAND TO HOLD

DON'T PROMISE ME FAIR SKY ABOVE
DON'T PROMISE ME KIND ROAD BELOW
JUST WALK WITH ME MY LOVE
ANY WAY THE WIND BLOWS

ORPHEUS

I DON'T KNOW WHERE THIS ROAD WILL END
BUT I'LL WALK WITH YOU INTO THE WIND, I

ORPHEUS & EURYDICE

CAN'T PROMISE YOU FAIR SKY ABOVE
CAN'T PROMISE YOU KIND ROAD BELOW
BUT I'LL WALK WITH YOU MY LOVE
ANY WAY THE WIND BLOWS

ORPHEUS

AND DO YOU LET ME WALK WITH YOU?

EURYDICE

I DO

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ORPHEUS

I DO

ORPHEUS & EURYDICE

I DO

EURYDICE

AND KEEP ON WALKING COME WHAT WILL?

ORPHEUS

I WILL

EURYDICE

I WILL

ORPHEUS & EURYDICE

WE WILL

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THE ASCENT

(#32) WAIT FOR ME II

HERMES

(to ORPHEUS)
THE MEANEST DOG YOU'LL EVER MEET
HE AIN'T THE HOUND DOG IN THE STREET
HE BARES SOME TEETH AND TEARS SOME SKIN
BUT BROTHER, THAT'S THE WORST OF HIM
NOW THE DOG YOU REALLY GOT TO DREAD
IS THE ONE THAT HOWLS INSIDE YOUR HEAD
IT'S HIM WHOSE HOWLIN DRIVES MEN MAD
AND A MIND TO ITS UNDOING

EURYDICE

(to ORPHEUS)
WAIT FOR ME, I'M COMING
WAIT, I'M COMING WITH YOU
WAIT FOR ME, I'M COMING TOO
I'M COMING TOO

(ORPHEUS and EURYDICE share a final kiss before the journey.)

PERSEPHONE

You think they'll make it?

HADES

I don't know

PERSEPHONE

Hades, you let them go

HADES

I let them try

PERSEPHONE

And how 'bout you and I?
Are we gonna try again?

HADES

It's almost spring
We'll try again next fall

PERSEPHONE

Wait for me

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HADES

I will

(ORPHEUS begins the ascent. EURYDICE follows some distance behind.)

COMPANY

WAIT FOR ME, I'M COMING
WAIT, I'M COMING WITH YOU
WAIT FOR ME, I'M COMING TOO
I'M COMING TOO

HERMES

YOU GOT A LONESOME ROAD TO WALK
AND IT AIN'T ALONG THE RAILROAD TRACK
AND IT AIN'T ALONG THE BLACKTOP TAR
YOU'VE WALKED A HUNNERT TIMES BEFORE
I'LL TELL YOU WHERE THE REAL ROAD LIES
BETWEEN YOUR EARS, BEHIND YOUR EYES
THAT IS THE PATH TO PARADISE
LIKEWISE THE ROAD TO RUIN

COMPANY

WAIT FOR ME, I'M COMING
WAIT, I'M COMING WITH YOU
WAIT FOR ME, I'M COMING TOO
I'M COMING TOO, I'M
WAIT FOR ME, I'M COMING
WAIT, I'M COMING WITH YOU
WAIT FOR ME, I'M COMING TOO
I'M COMING
WAIT, WAIT, WAIT

EURYDICE

WAIT

(#33) DOUBT COMES IN

ORPHEUS

LA LA LA LA LA LA LA...
LA LA LA LA LA LA LA...

FATES

DOUBT COMES IN AND STRIPS THE PAINT
DOUBT COMES IN AND TURNS THE WINE
DOUBT COMES IN AND LEAVES A TRACE
OF VINEGAR AND TURPENTINE

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ORPHEUS & FATES
WHERE ARE YOU? WHERE ARE YOU NOW?

FATES
DOUBT COMES IN AND KILLS THE LIGHTS
DOUBT COMES IN AND CHILLS THE AIR

ORPHEUS
DOUBT COMES IN AND ALL FALLS SILENT
IT'S AS THOUGH YOU AREN'T THERE

ORPHEUS & FATES
WHERE ARE YOU? WHERE ARE YOU NOW?

EURYDICE
ORPHEUS, YOU'RE SHIVERING
IS IT COLD OR FEAR?
JUST KEEP SINGING
THE COLDEST NIGHT OF THE COLDEST YEAR
COMES RIGHT BEFORE THE SPRING

ORPHEUS & FATES
DOUBT COMES IN WITH TRICKY FINGERS
DOUBT COMES IN WITH FICKLE TONGUES

ORPHEUS
DOUBT COMES IN AND MY HEART FALTERS
AND FORGETS THE SONGS IT SUNG

ORPHEUS & FATES
WHERE ARE YOU? WHERE ARE YOU NOW?

EURYDICE
ORPHEUS, HOLD ON
HOLD ON TIGHT
IT WON'T BE LONG
THE DARKEST HOUR OF THE DARKEST NIGHT
COMES RIGHT BEFORE THE DAWN

(ORPHEUS turns.)

You're early.

ORPHEUS
I missed you.

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EPILOGUE (ABOVE)

(#34) ROAD TO HELL II

HERMES

It's an old song
It's an old tale from way back when
It's an old song
And we're gonna sing it again and again
We're gonna sing it again

There's a railroad line on the road to hell
There's a young man down on bended knees
That is the ending of the tale of Orpheus…
And Eurydice

It's a sad song
It's a sad tale, it's a tragedy
It's a sad song
But we sing it anyway

Here's the thing
To know how it ends
And still begin
To sing it again
As if it might turn out *this* time
I learned that from a friend of mine

COMPANY

MMMM…

HERMES

See Orpheus was a poor boy
But he had a gift to give
He could make you see how the world could be
In spite of the way that it

Can you see it?

COMPANY

MMMM…

HERMES

Can you hear it?

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COMPANY

MMMM…

HERMES

Can you feel it like a train
Is it coming? Is it coming? Is it coming thisaway?

ON A SUNNY DAY THERE WAS A RAILROAD CAR

COMPANY

MMMM…

HERMES

AND A LADY STEPPING OFF A TRAIN

COMPANY

MMMM…

HERMES

EVERYBODY LOCKED AND EVERYDAY SAW…

COMPANY

MMMM…

HERMES

THAT THE SPRING HAD COME AGAIN…

WITH A LOVE SONG

COMPANY

WITH A LOVE SONG!

HERMES

WITH A TALE OF A LOVE THAT NEVER DIES
WITH A LOVE SONG

COMPANY

WITH A LOVE SONG!

HERMES

For anyone who tries

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(#35) I RAISE MY CUP TO HIM

PERSEPHONE

POUR THE WINE AND RAISE A CUP
DRINK UP BROTHERS, YOU KNOW HOW
AND SPILL A DROP FOR ORPHEUS
WHEREVER HE IS NOW

SOME BIRDS SING WHEN THE SUN SHINES BRIGHT
MY PRAISE IS NOT FOR THEM
BUT THE ONE WHO SINGS IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT
I RAISE MY CUP TO HIM

WHEREVER HE IS WANDERING
ALONE UPON THE EARTH
LET ALL OUR SINGING FOLLOW HIM
AND BRING HIM COMFORT

SOME FLOWERS BLOOM WHERE THE GREEN GRASS GROWS
MY PRAISE IS NOT FOR THEM
BUT THE ONE WHO BLOOMS IN THE BITTER SNOW
I RAISE MY CUP TO HIM

COMPANY

I RAISE MY CUP AND DRINK IT UP
I RAISE IT HIGH AND DRINK IT DRY

PERSEPHONE

TO ORPHEUS AND ALL OF US
GOODNIGHT, BROTHERS, GOODNIGHT

END OF PLAY

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